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[REDACTED]

1 November 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. George Carver

SUBJECT: Energy NIO Matters

1. On 31 October 1973, I held a meeting with Maurice Ernst and [REDACTED] concerning working relations between the Energy NIO and OER. Discussions were held against a background of well-established relations between the SAC/DDO and OER. Also, [REDACTED] and I have participated as CIA representatives in the White House Energy Committee since its inception.

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2. Certain characteristics of the Energy NIO are evident and should be considered in shaping the initial arrangements; among them:

a. The two functions, i.e., that of the Energy NIO and the SAC/DDO, will be separately performed with separate missions, budgets, offices, staff, telephones, routing distribution (once NIO space is available).

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b. [REDACTED]

c. Because of the universal character of the energy problem, the Energy NIO will have substantive relations with most of the geographical NIOs (and particularly the NE/Islam NIO) and, when established, with the Economics NIO.

d. Because the collection of information on the energy problem lends itself to special collection arrangements, SAC/DDO will function in part as an operational effort in direct support of the Energy NIO.

e. Although the Energy NIO will have business to transact with many elements of the Agency and the Community, the principal relationship within the Agency

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will be with OER which has established a unique position within the USG as the computerized data bank for information on the volumes and prices of energy materials, including oil and gas. Other aspects of the energy problem are also centered in OER. For this reason, I have invited the DDI (and specifically OER) to nominate as assistant to the Energy NIO an officer who would ensure the closest working relationship between the Energy NIO and OER; other qualifications for this position are apparent.



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g. The Energy NIO will presumably become a focal point for certain kinds of liaison with other USG offices interested in energy matters. Inevitably, there will be some confusion regarding the roles of OER and the Energy NIO. To permit us, on behalf of the DCI, to remain responsive and effective in dealing with other USG elements, our arrangements should be such that they will relieve our contacts of the difficult tasks of sorting out the roles of OER (and particularly that of [redacted] and the Energy NIO. The assistant to the Energy NIO must, in the absence of the Energy NIO, be capable of sorting out communications and action matters among the Energy NIO, the SAC/DDO, OER and other elements of the Agency. (I see my usefulness enhanced by continuing to spend a maximum amount of my time and effort either actively in touch with USG officials concerned with energy policies or with my operational staff and contacts involved in SAC/DDO activities.)

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3. I assume that one of the functions of the Energy NIO will be to represent the Agency on the White House Energy Group or other comparable groups dealing with energy problems. In practice, [redacted] and I have dealt with the problems of the Energy Group. By all odds, the maximum investment of time and effort has been made by [redacted] and his colleagues in OER who stay on top of the numbers game and field a variety of related issues tossed to the Agency on short notice by the NSC staff, Love's office and others.

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I think that the backup to the Energy NIO on committees of this sort should probably be OER, i.e., [ ] with [ ] kept fully in the picture because of the extensive overlap between Middle East and energy matters.

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4. Because I will be absent more than usual during the next six weeks, (I am relocating my complex household and delayed my annual leave for this purpose) I recommend that we firm up an arrangement for [ ] and OER to backstop me as Energy NIO without waiting for other developments. If the White House Energy Group becomes particularly preoccupied with the political aspects of the Middle East (very possible given the Arab moves in the oil business), [ ] could become involved in my absence. This is an area in which some flexibility is probably needed.

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JHC

CC: [ ]

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